



**For Immediate Release
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Spiros Public Safety Bill Passes Assembly

Madison – Today the Assembly voted to pass an important public safety bill authored by Representative Spiros (R-Marshfield).

Senate Bill 135 will create a standard punishment by revoking the driver's license of a repeat OWI offender after the fourth OWI. The revocation would last for ten years, after which time the individual could apply for reinstatement of operating privileges.

"I was proud to work with my colleague Senator Van Wanggaard on this bill and was happy to see so much bipartisan support for the bill in the Assembly today," Rep. Spiros said. "Drunk driving is a serious problem in the state of Wisconsin, and one we need to continue to address."

Under current law there is no standard punishment, and revocation periods vary greatly from case to case. This bill seeks to fix that inconsistency and to reduce the number of OWI convictions in the state. According to data collected by the Department of Transportation, Wisconsin had over 1,800 convictions for drivers that committed their 4th or higher OWI offense in 2015 alone.

"The statistics on drunk driving in our state are staggering," Rep. Spiros said. "The number of repeat offenders of this offense truly prove that our current penalties aren't enough of a deterrent. I am confident this bill will encourage repeat offenders to rehabilitate in order to regain operating privileges after the ten-year revocation period has passed."

Though the bill was previously passed by the Senate, it was amended today in the Assembly and therefore heads back to the Senate before going to the Governor to await his signature.

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